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SUPPLEMENTARY CATALOGUE, 1915-1916

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The Hardy French Walnuts: Owing to the success of the hardy, late vegetating, French strains of the English or Persian walnut in Washington and Oregon, where most other varieties have not proven hardy and otherwise very unreliable, I have had great faith in the Mayette and Franquette for eastern planting. My faith in these varieties has been greatly strengthened within the past year. There are many fine bearing trees of these two strains of walnuts in Western New York and Ontario, also scattered trees in many other eastern states. It was with much pleasure that those of us attending the convention at Rochester, N. Y., September 1st and 2d, accepted the invitation so generously extended to us to tour that section and see some of the fine English Walnut trees. We were shown many large, thrifty, bearing trees, fifty, seventy-five and as much as 105 years old. All were pleased with the healthy, vigorous trees seen and, above all, with the fine crops many of the trees were producing. A very large tree, 75 years old, near Charlotte, N. Y., some of our party estimated the crop at 20 bushels, while others, more conservative, said 10 or 12 bushels. Anyway, the tree had a very fine crop on it, which was distributed all over the tree, from the ground to

been inclined to regard the growing of English Walnuts in this latitude as a "joke," and who have been more than willing to turn a deaf ear to any information along this line. Much credit is due Prof. Fagan for his persistent efforts and systematic work in making this survey. Similar surveys of many other states would prove equally surprising no doubt.

Additional Varieties of the English Walnut.

WILTZ MAYETTE: The largest nut of all the Mayettes. Nut very large and smooth with a very bright, attractive appearance; the shell is soft and cracks easily, releasing the plump,



FIG. 1. From a photo showing a portion of the lower limbs of a bearing English walnut tree growing in the city of Lancaster, Pa.

the top, seventy feet or more high. At St. Catherines, Ontario, we saw a large tree of the Franquette type that was carrying one of the finest crops of any tree that we saw. The owner told us that this was habitual with the tree, that it was a heavy annual bearer. A gentleman at Brantford, Ontario, has the genuine Vrooman Franquette grafted several years ago, which is doing very finely. The question naturally arises then, if we can grow these fine walnuts just as easily as any others (and there is no doubt but that we can) why not grow them to the exclusion of other varieties? I think there is no doubt but that these varieties will take the lead in our eastern plantings and deservedly so, but we have some very fine eastern varieties that are very good indeed and, as is now pretty well known, the trees are more likely to bear regular crops where several varieties are planted together to insure cross-pollination.

I have worked up, at considerable expense, a stock of several thousand grafted trees of the Wiltz Mayette and Vrooman Franquette, the two best varieties of these fine walnuts, and can now supply these trees in quantity at the regular prices.

In the recent investigation of the English walnut trees growing within the state by Prof. Fagan of the State College, for the state of Pennsylvania, bearing English walnut trees were located in fourteen counties of the state and ranging from Lake Erie to the Maryland state line. Altogether, about two thousand trees were located and Prof. Fagan estimates that there are fully five thousand bearing trees in the state. Prof. Fagan visited many of these trees personally and is getting sample nuts from a large number of trees. The result of this survey is surprising to many and especially to those who have

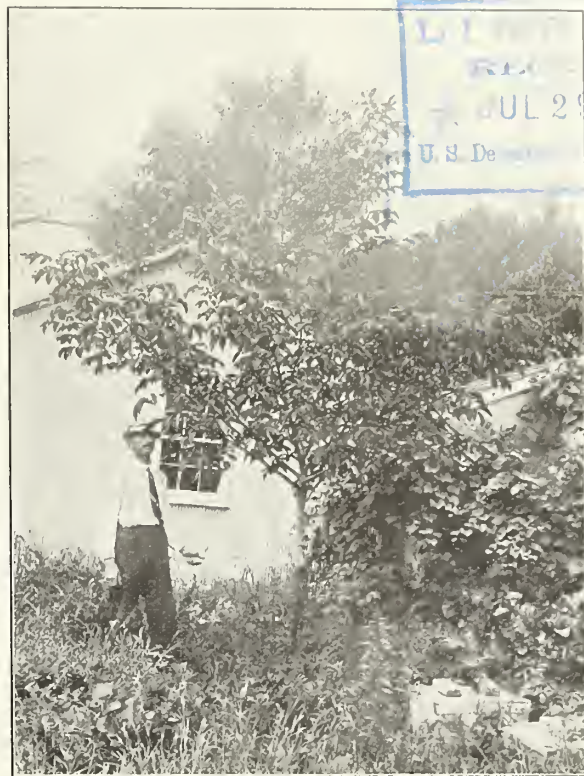


FIG. 2. A budded English walnut tree in my grounds planted in the dormant bud, spring of 1913. This tree has had no cultivation of any kind since it was planted, but it is growing in very rich soil. Photo September, 1915.

white meats whole. Like all nuts of this type, the quality and flavor of the nut is very fine. Tree very healthy and vigorous with me and will succeed anywhere that the walnut can be grown. With my present knowledge, if I were limited to one variety of the walnut, that variety would be the Wiltz Mayette.

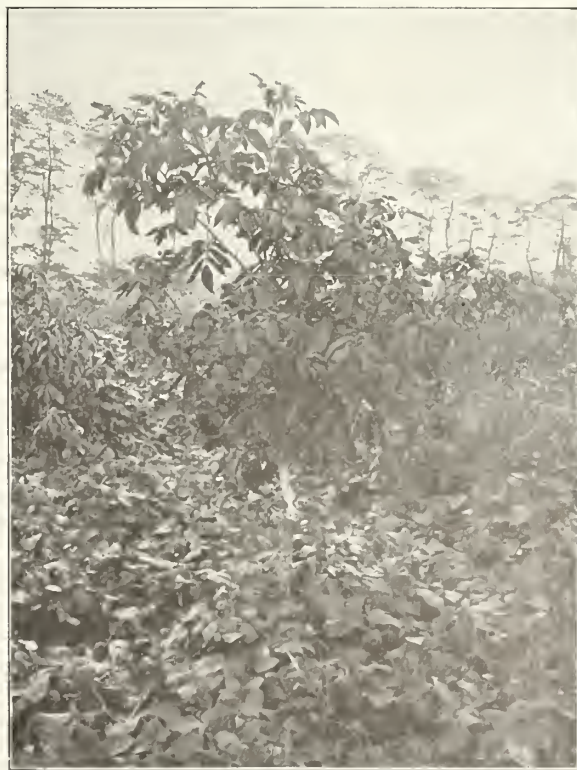


FIG. 3. One of the grafted English walnut trees in my test orchard planted fall 1913. Note the growth of cowpeas about the tree. We sow these at the last cultivation, in July. Where we can't sow peas on the whole row, we sprinkle a handful around the tree and hoe them in.

VROOMAN FRANQUETTE: The Vrooman is an improvement on the old Franquette from which it originated. It has a thinner and softer shell and a more attractive appearance. The tree is also more vigorous with me. A close rival of the

Wiltz Mayette for popular honors. There is no doubt but that this and the Wiltz Mayette will lead all others in commercial plantings and very deservedly so.

The Hardy Pecans: I have this season a nice lot of budded pecans grown on root pruned stocks that will transplant better and give better results than any that I have been able to supply heretofore. You will be highly pleased with the root development of these trees. You can't buy such trees from any other source, so far as I know, and my supply is not large. The Busseron has proven to be the earliest to bear so far. Several trees of this variety only three years old bore a few nuts this past season, in Indiana. This and the Indiana originated farther north than any others that we have and are perhaps the safest to plant farther north. All of the Indiana and Kentucky varieties are perfectly hardy here and make a very vigorous growth. With the single exception of caterpillars, no pests or diseases have attacked the pecan here. I believe that in the behavior of these hardy budded pecans there are some happy surprises in store for us, and I have great faith in them.



FIG. 4. A large top worked Frankquette walnut tree belonging to Mr. John Garretson, Adams Co., Pa. This was grafted upon black walnut, 12 or 14 feet high, by Mr. Garretson's father 18 years ago, with cions of the Franquette which were obtained from the late Felix Gillette, of California. This is a very fine tree and bears good crops of very fine nuts.

The Chestnut and the Chestnut Blight: Owing to the blight having become well established in this locality and owing to the danger of sending it out on chestnut trees grown in a locality where the blight is prevalent, I have given up the propagation of the chestnut here and can only supply trees of the Paragon this season. My stock of these comes from a nursery which has no blight within 50 miles, so are safe to plant in localities which have no blight. The chestnut blight is working havoc here in the big Paragon orchards, as well as in the forests. I get a good many letters from people asking if the "Sober Paragon" is blight proof. For the information of those interested, I might say that the Sober Paragon and the Paragon is one and the same variety and is neither blight-proof nor blight-resistant.

The Filberts and Cob Nuts: The European Filberts and Cob Nuts succeed over a large area and are very desirable indeed. The only drawback to their successful culture on a large scale has been the Hazel Blight. Unlike the chestnut blight, this hazel blight works very slowly and is easily controlled, as Dr. Morris has demonstrated at his "Meribrook" farm in Connecticut. Dr. Morris made the statement at the Rochester convention that he could control the hazel blight and grow filberts more easily than he could peaches. He said that once or twice a year was sufficient to go over the bushes and cut out the blight and that he would prefer to do this rather than to dig out peach borers. Where there are no wild hazels near, one will not be troubled with the hazel blight. I have never seen it on the filberts in this locality. There are many fruiting filberts in Connecticut, New York and this state. They are doing well on mountain soils generally, as well as on well-drained limestone soils. They are doing finely here and the fruit is fully as large and fine as the imported. The plants of the following fine varieties are imported. They have been grown from layers, transplanted, and are therefore on their own roots.

Barcellona: Nut very large, round; tree very productive. One of the best here.

Cosford: Nut large, oblong; shell very thin, can often be cracked in the fingers. Tree said to bear abundantly.

Lambert: Nut large; tree a good grower and heavy bearer. Considered the finest of all filberts.

Prices: Two-year stocky plants, about 18 to 24 inches high, 30 cents each or four for \$1.00; 2 to 3 feet, 40 cents each or six for \$2.00.

Shagbark Hickories: I get a good many inquiries for shagbark trees. I am propagating several remarkably fine varieties of the shagbark but will have no trees to offer before the fall of 1917. The shagbark is not more difficult to propagate than the pecan, provided one has good propagating wood, but the cions from old, bearing trees give very poor results and it is slow work working up Mother Blocks and nursery trees with only a limited supply of poor cion wood.

Seedling Trees: Owing to a few firms selling seedling walnut trees, under varietal names, a resolution was adopted at the Rochester convention condemning this practice and asking reliable publishing firms to carry no further advertising for firms selling seedling trees unless it was specifically stated that such trees were seedlings. The selling of seedling trees is perfectly legitimate, provided they are sold for what they are, but it is wrong to sell seedling nut trees under varietal names because seedlings cannot be depended upon to reproduce any given variety of nut any more than can seedlings of any other fruit be depended upon to reproduce a variety. The only way to reproduce or perpetuate a variety is by budding or grafting, rooted cuttings or layers.



FIG. 5. Average trees showing the effect of cutting the taproots. The two trees on the left are budded pecans. The third tree is a grafted walnut, while the fourth is a budded walnut. We run a special root pruner under the young trees when one year old and this severing of the taproot causes the young trees to develop more and better lateral roots and several smaller taproots are usually formed instead of one long taproot with few or no lateral roots.

Transplanting Nut Trees: Nut trees, unless small, must have the tops reduced when transplanted. This should be done not only to insure safety in transplanting, but to facilitate the forming of new feeding roots, without which the tree will linger along and possibly be several years getting started into vigorous growth, even with good care. If the top overbalances the root system, to any appreciable extent, the overtaxed root system is simply exhausted and if the tree does not die entirely, it will be several years getting started and will be far behind trees that were properly cut back when planted. Where wanted, we cut back trees for shipment properly and wax over all cut surfaces with a specially prepared tough wax. My root pruned trees transplant easily and safely if the top is reduced $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ and good, well-pulverized, top soil is well firmed about the roots as the tree is planted.

Fall Planting: You will gain some time by planting this fall, as the soil becomes settled about the roots and the trees start growth earlier in the spring and make better growth than do those planted in the spring. The land is also in much better condition for planting in the fall, the soil being warmer and much more friable than in the early spring. In this latitude, trees can be planted almost any time up to December 15th or 20th. They may be planted any time that the ground is not frozen, but we prefer November planting if we can get to it.

Very truly yours,

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